

Good Practices

Emergency Plans and Equipment

Emergency tools are required and important for all factories. Garment factories that care about the health safety of their workers, invest money on emergency equipment to ensure the safety of workers. Crucial emergency equipment and procedures are alarms, evacuation plans, emergency lights and gathering areas.

Good practices for equipping emergency fire prevention equipment

- Practice emergency evacuation procedures regularly.
- Post evacuation plans so workers understand where to go in case of emergencies (Figure 1).
- Check smoke detectors, fire alarms and fire extinguishers regularly to ensure that they always work properly (Figure 2).
- Install an alarm system, including bells, smoke detectors and fire extinguishers (Figures 2&3). Ensure there are sufficient numbers.
- Install back up battery powered emergency lights in case of power outages (Figure 3).
- Label all exits clearly and ensure that they are not blocked by boxes, or other objects (Figure 3).
- Designate safe gathering areas to check and verify that all workers have been safely evacuated from factory buildings in an emergency situation.

Benefits:

- ✓ Reduces workers' fear of workplace accidents
- ✓ Promotes the image of a safe garment factory to buyers and other stakeholders
- ✓ Can increase workers' productivity

How:

- ✓ Identify appropriate places to install sufficient numbers of smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and fire alarms
- ✓ Inspect emergency equipment regularly to make sure they are working properly
- ✓ Repair or replace old equipment regularly
- ✓ Practice emergency evacuations regularly

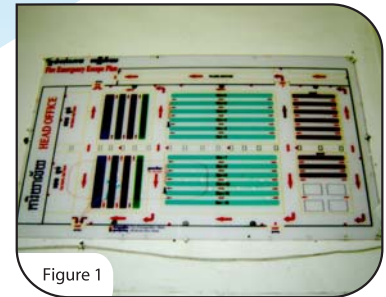


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Cost:

\$ - \$\$

\$ Low cost

\$\$ Moderate cost

\$\$\$ High cost